the Trade Fair Authority of India proposes to organise more specialised commodity fairs at Pragati Maidan and give them International character. In addition, the Trade Fair Auhthority of India is exploring possibilities of organising international fairs in other industrial centres in India starting with an India International Leather Fair at Madras in January-February, 1986.

Export to the Soviet Union

97. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of items exported to the Soviet Union during the year 1984-85 and what are the total foreign exchange earnings from such exports;

(b) what are the names of items imported from the Soviet Union during the above period and the amount spent thereon; and

(c) what steps Government are contemplating to ensure a favourable balance of trade position in regard to the trade with the Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The Trade Agreement between India and USSR provides for the conduct of trade between the two countries on a bilateral and balanced basis.

The items being exported from India and USSR during the year 1985 include Agricultural products, Minerals and Ores, Chemicals and Allied Products, Leather and Leather Manufactures, Textile goods and Engineering Products. As per the provisional assessment, exports to the USSR for the first three quarter of the year 1984-85 (April, 1984—December, 1984) are of the order of Rs. 1125.28 crores.

The Indian imports from Soviet Union consists of Machinery Equipment, Spare Parts, Crude Oil and Petroleum Products, Chemicals and Pharamaceutical Products, Steel Products, Non-ferrous Metals etc. Indian imports from the USSR during the period of April, 1984 to December, 1984 amount to Rs. 1236.19 crores provisionally.

Tax on Agricultural income

98. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring farm income under direct taxation;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to tap agricultural income for enhancing the financial resources during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Taxes on agricultural income fall under entry 46 of List II—State List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Taxation of agricultural income, therefore, falls within the jurisdiction of the State Legislatures. Hence, action in this regard will have to be taken by the State Governments.

Order Placed with a U. K. firm for Production of Small Coins

99. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a company in Birmingham in England has been entrusted with the production of small coins for India; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for entering into a contract with a foreign company for the production of small coins?